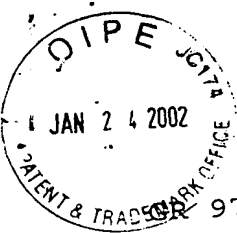


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By:

Date: December 24, 2001

#24
Response
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 30 2002

Technology Center 2600

Applicant : Frank Hintermaier

Applic. No. : 09/161,196

Filed : September 25, 1998

Title : Capacitor Having A Barrier Layer Made Of A Transition Metal Phosphide, Arsenide Or Sulfide

Examiner : Cuong Q. Nguyen

Group Art Unit : 2811

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

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R E S P O N S E

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D. C. 20231

S i r :

Responsive to the non-final Office action dated October 23, 2001, the following remarks are made.

Reconsideration and the allowance of claims 1, 3, 5 and 7-12 are solicited.

Claims 1-24 remain in the application. Claims 2, 4, 6 and 13-24 are withdrawn from consideration.